

**REMARKS**

Minor amendments have been made to the brief description of the drawings and the detailed description of the invention. Claim 23 has been canceled.

**CANCELED CLAIM:**

Claims 23 has been canceled.

**AMENDED SPECIFICATION:**

The specification has been amended to remove reference to a Fig. 2B and to correct typographical errors.

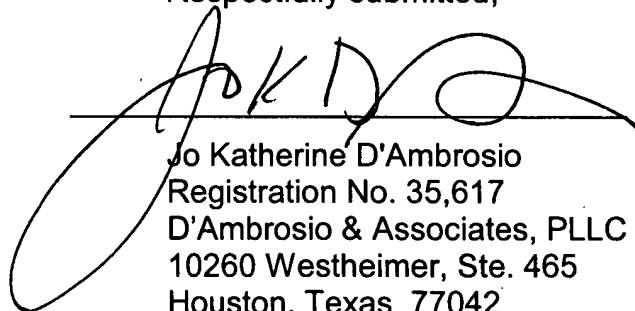
**REQUESTS**

The Examiner has rejected claim 23 under 35 USC §112. Claim 23 has been canceled. The informalities in the disclosure have been corrected.

Applicant respectfully requests a telephone interview with Examiner to resolve any questions related to this response.

Respectfully submitted,

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A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jo Katherine D'Ambrosio', is written over a horizontal line.

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IN THE BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS:

Fig. 1 is a perspective illustrating underdrain block and lid according to one embodiment of this invention.

Fig. 2[A] is a perspective view of a second embodiment of the lid.

Fig. 2[B] A is a perspective view of a third embodiment of the lid.

Fig. 3 is a partial cross-section of an underdrain block illustrating one embodiment of the ridge.

Fig. 4 is a partial cross-section of an underdrain block illustrating another embodiment of the ridge.

Fig. 5 is a cross-section of one embodiment of the lid.

Fig. 6 is a cross-section of another embodiment of the lid.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the lid and the porous plate.

Fig. 8 is a cross-section of the underdrain block, the lid and the porous plate.

IN THE DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION:

Page 6, lines 12 - 21:

The top surface 30 of the underdrain block 10 preferably has a ridge 34 circumscribing the opening 15. As seen in Fig. 1 ~~s. 2, 2A and 2B~~, the lid 20 interlocks with the ridge 34 to enclose the filler material 70 within the underdrain block 10. In one preferred embodiment, the lid 20 comprises a top 22, a bottom 24 and a peripheral edge 26. The peripheral edge 26 comprises a rim 27 adapted to interlock with the ridge 34 of the block 10. In one embodiment illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4 ~~5~~, the ridge ~~43~~ 34 of the underdrain block 10 includes a flange 35a, 35b perpendicular to the top surface. In this embodiment, the rim 27 is adapted to tightly fit over the flange 35a, 35b so that the rim 27 interlocks with the flange 35a, 35b.